

HOW BIG AN IMPACT?

In this study, we analyze the economic contribution of the independents and potential loss as a result of policies that effectively prevent them from participating in future development in the offshore Gulf of Mexico and, in particular, in the deepwater. Our analysis for the 2009–20 forecast period indicates that the exclusion of the independents from the offshore GOM would mean:

The following lost jobs in the four-state Gulf region (Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas)—direct, indirect, and induced: 2009—202,502; 2015—289,716; 2020—300,974.

Additionally, 40,777 construction-related jobs would be lost in the four-state Gulf region during 2009–20. This activity includes construction of rigs, platforms, pipelines, and production facilities.

The following lost taxes and royalties to the federal government: 2009—\$7.34 billion; 2015—\$10.13 billion; 2020—9.98 billion.

The following lost state and local tax revenues in the four-state Gulf region: 2009—\$3.18 billion; 2015—\$4.59 billion; 2020—\$4.68 billion.

Altogether, more than \$147 billion in federal, state, and local revenues would be lost in a 10-year period if independents are excluded from the Gulf of Mexico. These estimates only include revenues collected from the four-state Gulf region.

Within the deepwater, the exclusion of the independents would mean:

The following lost jobs in the four-state Gulf region—direct, indirect, and induced: 2009—121,298; 2015—230,241; 2020—265,113.

The following lost taxes and royalties to the federal government: 2009—\$3.64 billion; 2015—\$7.26 billion; 2020—\$8.33 billion.

The following lost state and local tax revenues in the four-state Gulf region: 2009—\$1.63 billion; 2015—\$3.35 billion; 2020—\$3.94 billion.

Altogether, more than \$106 billion in federal, state, and local revenues would be lost in a 10-year period if independents are excluded from the deepwater.

Overall, the exclusion of the independents would significantly shrink offshore oil and gas activity, reduce the dynamism of the industry, and dilute U.S. technological and industry leadership.

The reason for all these effects is that independents represent a much larger share of total activity than is generally recognized. Independent producers are an integral part of shelf, as well as deepwater, drilling and discovery.

Independents are the largest shareholder in 66% of the 7,521 leases in the entire Gulf of Mexico and in 81% of the producing leases.

In the deepwater portion of the Gulf of Mexico, independents are the largest shareholder in 52% of all leases and in 46% of the producing leases. They operate over half of the developing and producing deepwater fields.

Independents have drilled 1,298 wells in the deepwater, and they currently account for over 900,000 barrels a day of oil equivalent (oil and natural gas together).

Independents are responsible for an average of 70% of the “farm-ins”: the partnerships formed following the original lease agreement that enable prospects to be drilled and oil and gas produced.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that any statements relating to the nomination be printed in the RECORD as if read; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action and the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from the State of Minnesota, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senate stands in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 9:34 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 9:56 p.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. FRANKEN).

FDA FOOD SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will come to order.

The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, what is the business before the Senate?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate is considering S. 510.

Mr. REID. The food safety bill; is that right?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE WITHDRAWN

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute be withdrawn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 4715

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Mr. REID. I now call up the Harkin substitute amendment which is at the desk and ask for that amendment to be considered read.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID], for Mr. HARKIN, proposes an amendment numbered 4715.

(The amendment is printed in today’s RECORD under “Text of Amendments.”)

CLOTURE MOTIONS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have two cloture motions at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the cloture motions.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the Harkin substitute amendment No. 4715 to Calendar No. 247, S. 510, the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Claire McCaskill, Tom Harkin, Carl Levin, Daniel K. Inouye, Richard J. Durbin,

Byron L. Dorgan, Jack Reed, Jeff Bingaman, Mark Begich, Blanche L. Lincoln, Robert Menendez, Daniel K. Akaka, Sherrod Brown, Sheldon Whitehouse, Patty Murray, Debbie Stabenow, Barbara Boxer.

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Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the cloture vote on the substitute amendment occur at 6 p.m. on Monday, November 29, and the mandatory quorum be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that if cloture is invoked on the substitute, then all postcloture time be yielded back except for the time specified in this agreement; and that the only amendments or motions in order be those specified in this agreement, with debate limitations as specified:

Johanns motion to suspend with respect to amendment No. 4702; Baucus motion to suspend with respect to amendment No. 4713, with a total of 60 minutes of debate with respect to these two motions with the time equally divided and controlled between Senators Baucus and Johans; Coburn motion to suspend with respect to amendment No. 4696—substitute; Coburn motion to suspend with respect to amendment No. 4697 dealing with earmarks; that there be a total of 4 hours of debate with respect to the Coburn motions, equally divided and controlled between Senators COBURN and INOUE or their designees; that upon the use or yielding back of all time specified here, the Senate proceed to vote with respect to the motions to suspend in the order listed: Johans 1099; Baucus 1099; Coburn earmarks; Coburn substitute; that upon disposition of the motions, and if any motion is successful, then the Senate vote immediately on the amendment; that no further motions or amendments be in order; the substitute amendment, as amended, if amended, be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be read a third time; that after the reading of the pay-go statement with respect to the bill, the Senate proceed to vote on passage of the bill; and that the cloture motion with respect to the bill be withdrawn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed

to a period of morning business with Senators allowed to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SERGEANT AARON B. CRUTTENDEN

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life and heroic service of SGT Aaron B. Cruttenden. Sergeant Cruttenden, assigned to the 27th Engineer Battalion, based in Fort Bragg, NC, died on November 7, 2010, of injuries sustained when his dismounted patrol encountered small arms fire. Sergeant Cruttenden was serving in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Kunar Province, Afghanistan. He was 25 years old.

A native of Mesa, AZ, Sergeant Cruttenden earned his graduate equivalency diploma and worked for 2 years as an apprentice electrician. He then enlisted in the Army in March 2008. Sergeant Cruttenden hoped to defend his country, make a better life for his family, and pursue opportunities for higher education. He served a tour of duty in Afghanistan with decoration.

During his 2½ years of service, Sergeant Cruttenden distinguished himself through his courage, dedication to duty, and willingness to take on one of the most dangerous and skillful jobs in the Army—detecting and eliminating improvised explosive devices. Throughout Sergeant Cruttenden's time in the Army, family members recall that his foremost concern was protecting the men and women under his command.

Sergeant Cruttenden worked on the front lines of battle, serving in the most dangerous areas of Afghanistan. He is remembered by those who knew him as a consummate professional with an unending commitment to excellence. His family remembers him as a dedicated son and loving father to his young daughter. Both in service and civilian life, Sergeant Cruttenden's warmth and caring for others were always on display.

Mark Twain once said, "The fear of death follows from the fear of life. A man who lives fully is prepared to die at any time." Sergeant Cruttenden's service was in keeping with this sentiment—by selflessly putting country first, he lived life to the fullest. He lived with a sense of the highest honorable purpose.

At substantial personal risk, he braved the chaos of combat zones throughout Afghanistan. And though his fate on the battlefield was uncertain, he pushed forward, protecting America's citizens, her safety, and the freedoms we hold dear. For his service and the lives he touched, Sergeant Cruttenden will forever be remembered as one of our country's bravest.

To Sergeant Cruttenden's entire family—I cannot imagine the sorrow you must be feeling. I hope that, in time, the pain of your loss will be eased by

your pride in Aaron's service and by your knowledge that his country will never forget him. We are humbled by his service and his sacrifice.

IRAN

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I rise to speak in relation to the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability and Divestment Act of 2010 and to congratulate my colleagues on its unanimous passage. This legislation is vital not only to sanction Iran for bad behavior but to signal to the Government of Iran our determination to keep them from developing or acquiring nuclear weapons and from supporting terrorism throughout the Middle East region and around the world.

It did not have to be this way. Iran has been given every opportunity to change its ways and has chosen not to do so. Iran represents one of the biggest threats to our security, and these sanctions should help restrict Iran's ability to operate.

Specifically, this legislation will expand sanctions on foreign companies that do business in Iran. It will ban U.S. banks from conducting financial transactions with foreign banks that are connected to the Iranian nuclear program or Iran's terrorist enterprises.

It imposes a variety of new financial sanctions on Iran, limiting the mullahs' access to the international banking system. And, among other provisions, provides a framework for U.S., state, and local governments to divest their portfolios of foreign companies that work in the Iranian energy sector.

In the past, the United States has not fully utilized its sanctions authority when it comes to Iran. Obviously, enforcement is crucial. Sanctions are only effective when they are actually applied. I urge the administration, in the strongest terms possible, to make full use of the sanctions Congress has authorized in this bill.

It is no secret that Iran is openly hostile to the United States and our important allies, and failing to act would be foolish and irresponsible. The Government of Iran has rejected every opportunity to develop good relations with the rest of the world and sanctions are a logical and necessary response.

We must send a strong, unified message to Tehran and to those who aid their tyrannical ambitions. Terrorism, oppression, and subjugation ought not have any place in society. This legislation imposes financial sanctions and travel restrictions on human rights abusers in Iran. Passage of this legislation helps demonstrate that we reject the repression of the rulers in Tehran and support the efforts of the Iranian people to change their government.

And, I hope that the people of Iran will understand that is our goal here. We support the people of Iran. We support their right to choose their own leaders and chart their own future. We stand with them against the tyranny of the mullahs.

Iranians have a long and proud history, and are some of the most passionate and courageous people I have met. They are just as opposed to the actions of the Iranian regime as we are.

In fact, a little over a year ago, the people of Iran went to the polls to vote for a leader and saw their hopes for a democratically elected leader brutally crushed by a regime unwilling to cede its power. People around the world stood breathlessly, hoping the brave men and women of the Green Revolution would see their efforts rewarded.

Instead of listening to the people of Iran, Ahmadinejad and his cronies killed, imprisoned, and tortured those who were brave enough to speak out in opposition to tyranny.

Unfortunately, this violent course of action is not a recently developed tactic. To this day, there are members of the Green Revolution sitting in prison. Christians are killed for worshiping the God of their choosing, the free press has been silenced, women are brutally oppressed. The human rights abuses of Iran are extensive.

These sanctions are necessary because of the terrible nature of the regime. The rulers in Tehran have demonstrated that they cannot be trusted. They have subverted the interests of the Iranian people. They have manipulated the political process.

We in the United States of America have a duty to stand with the thousands of men and women in Iran who long for the basic rights that we in America take for granted. Freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of religion, freedom of the press. These are the things the Iranian people long for, and these are the things I am confident they will one day enjoy.

Obviously, freedom for the Iranian people will require much more than legislation from the U.S. Congress, but we ought to do what we can, and this bill sends a strong signal at a key time for our efforts to halt Iran's nuclear program and for the people of Iran who seek a more representative government. I hope we take additional steps to support the Iranian people's free and unfettered access to the internet, boost their ability to receive unbiased news and information and provide the support and assistance they need to sustain the reform movement in the face of a hostile and repressive government.

Senator CORNYN and I have introduced the Iran Democratic Transition Act, which supports the transition to a freely elected democratic government in Iran by assisting eligible Iranian democratic opposition organizations with communications and distribution of information. It is an important bill to aid the courageous people of Iran, and it is my hope that in the coming weeks the Senate will be able to bring this bill to the floor for a vote.

Today is a great step forward. I look forward to working with my colleagues on other ways that we can strengthen